

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY ESTABLISHES NORTH CAROLINA SENIOR CITIZENS' HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced the creation of the North Carolina Senior Citizens' Highway Safety Commission to improve the safety and mobility of the state's senior citizen population. The governor established the commission by signing Executive Order Number X.

"The operation of motor vehicles by drivers over the age of 65 will increase by 60 percent in the next two decades," Easley said. "Recognizing the increased presence of these drivers on our highways, the Senior Citizens' Highway Safety Commission will study and develop new ways to enhance the safety and mobility of the state's growing older adult population with the goal of increasing highway safety for all North Carolinians."

Easley has charged the commission with reviewing existing laws and policies regarding transportation issues of drivers aged 65 and older, reviewing proposals in other states designed to increase transportation safety for older adult drivers, considering legislative proposals to the General Assembly and recommending additional actions for future change. The commission will present annual reports and special reports to the governor as needed.

The commission will have up to 15 members, including representatives of law enforcement, key aging associations and groups, the judicial system and the General Assembly. The governor will appoint all members, including the chair and co-chair.

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